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with one another. The organization was formally made in 1889, at the time of the Paris Exposition. It has grown until it now has strong groups in all the parliaments of Europe, and is the most important and powerful unofficial body of public men in the world. Its meeting in Vienna last September, under the auspices of the Austrian government, was attended by some six hundred delegates. It has met at Paris, London, Rome, Berne, Brussels, The Hague, Budapest, Christiania and Vienna. The Union has given its attention pretty largely to the subject of arbitration, including the permanent court and general treaties of arbitration. The report of its meeting at Budapest in 1896 was carried to the Czar by a Russian official who was present, and this report had great weight in inducing the call for the Hague Conference in 1899. But the indirect influence of the Union has been even greater than the direct. It has been immensely fruitful in creating a spirit of intelligence, of fairness, of largeness of view, of good understanding among the governments from whose parliaments its members have come, and in this way it has justified its existence a thousand times over.

It is cause for sincere gratification that our own national legislature, than which there is no greater parliamentary body in the world, is now, through the group which is being formed at Washington, to throw its immense weight of moral and intellectual strength into this unofficial, but none the less world-parliament. History will probably prove that no more important meeting was ever held in the national capitol than that gathering of Senators and Representatives in the lobby of the House on January 13th.

### Generous Subscriptions Solicited.

The Directors of the American Peace Society will be very grateful to the members and friends of the Society if they will, as early as practicable, send such contributions as they may be able to make for the work of the current year.

The coming of the International Peace Congress to the United States next autumn will necessarily make our expenses much larger this year than usual.

Besides this, the general work of the Society, through its journal and its pamphlet literature, is continually enlarging, and making increasing demands upon our always very inadequate resources.

The subject of a regular international advisory Congress, which the Society is now promoting, is one of the most important ever put upon its program. The proposal for such a Congress has met with unexpectedly large endorsement. It has been, as all our readers know, unanimously approved by the Massachusetts Legislature, which has asked the Congress of the United States to favor it also. The subject is now before the Foreign Relations Committees of both Houses of Congress. The proper promotion of this subject at Washington and with the general public will involve the expenditure of a good deal of money.

The Society must also, as the oldest peace organiza-

tion in the nation, do its full share in advancing the proposed Anglo-American treaty of arbitration, to which this issue of our paper is so largely devoted.

For all these important lines of its work, the Directors of the Society ask for generous contributions for the current year. Send whatever gifts you may be able to make, large or small. It is a most auspicious moment.

### Notes on the Washington Conference.

The local committee which made the arrangements for the Conference consisted of the following prominent Washingtonians: John W. Foster, Thomas Nelson Page, Charles J. Bell, Wm. J. Boardman, H. V. Boynton, W. V. Cox, George Dewey, John J. Edson, D. C. Gilman, C. C. Glover, Rev. S. H. Greene, Rev. T. S. Hamlin, M. A. Knapp, J. B. Larnier, H. B. F. Macfarland, Wayne MacVeagh, Nelson A. Miles, Charles W. Needham, C. S. Noyes, D. J. O'Connell, S. J. Peelle, R. R. Perry, G. M. Seekendorf, Bishop Satterlee, Samuel Spencer, Rev. D. J. Stafford, George Truesdale, Henry L. West, S. W. Woodward, Beriah Wilkins, Simon Wolf.

Two magnificent flags, the Stars and Stripes and the British Union Jack, bordered in white, and with the legend "Peace for all nations" in gold letters, were hung at the front of the hall in which the Conference was held. These flags were made by Dr. Robert S. Freedman of New York, at his own expense. They, with the flags of other countries similarly made, will be put by Dr. Freedman in the Temple of Peace at The Hague, when it is erected, to be used, two by two, when there is an arbitration going on between any two countries.

A reception, to meet Governor Durbin of Indiana, was given by Hon. John W. Foster to the members of the Conference on Tuesday evening, at his beautiful home on Eighteenth Street. Many distinguished public men not in the Conference attended the reception, and the occasion was a most interesting and inspiring one.

A considerable number of members of the American Peace Society attended the Conference. Among them were Robert Treat Paine, Samuel B. Capen, Edwin Ginn, Edwin D. Mead, Fiske Warren, Edward Everett Hale, Philip C. Garrett, Joshua L. Bailey, George F. Seward and Benjamin F. Trueblood.

Two members of the Hague Court, Hon. Oscar S. Straus, ex-minister to Turkey, and Judge George Gray of Delaware, attended the Conference and were among the most deeply interested members.

The *Washington Evening Star*, speaking of the purpose of the Conference, said that the proposed arbitration treaty with Great Britain "is an entirely practical project, by no means utopian, and to be heartily indorsed and assisted by every true patriot in both countries."

Sir Henry Mortimer Durand, who has just entered upon his duties as British Ambassador at Washington, is an earnest advocate of international arbitration, and is heartily in favor of the proposed treaty between his country and ours.

In the audience we noticed from foreign countries Dr. Thomas Barclay from England, Hon. Frederico Degetan, Commissioner from Porto Rico, and Baron Alfred von Overbeck from Germany.